

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the current listing of claims with this listing.

Claim 1. (Original) 1. A hybrid evaporation-extraction process for preparing microspheres of a poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) biodegradable polymer, comprising:

- a. preparing a lyophilized biologically active material-sucrose matrix; adding acetonitrile solvent to biologically active material-sucrose matrix to form a solution;
- b. preparing a solution of a biodegradable poly (DL-lactide-co-glycolide) polymer by adding acetonitrile solvent to the polymer;
- c. adding the biodegradable poly (DL-lactide-co-glycolide) polymer acetonitrile solution to the biologically active material-sucrose acetonitrile solution;
- d. adding with stirring an oil containing lecithin to the poly (DL-lactide-co-glycolide) polymer-sucrose-biologically active material solution to evaporate acetonitrile and form an emulsion containing microspheres of poly (DL-lactide-co-glycolide) biodegradable polymers;
- e. adding the emulsion from step d. into a solvent selected from heptane, hexane, pentane or isopropanol; and
- f. collecting microspheres of poly (DL-lactide-co-glycolide) biodegradable polymers of from 1.0 to about 10.0 micrometers after filtration and washing with a fresh solvent selected from heptane, hexane, pentane or isopropanol.

Claim 2. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the oil is selected from machine oils of 5W30, 10W30, 10W40 and 15W50.

Claim 3. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the oil is mineral oil.

Claim 4. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the oil is a silicone oil.

Claim 5. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein relative ratios between the lactide and glycolide are 50:50.

Claim 6. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein said biologically active material is an antigen.

Claim 7. (Original) The process of claim 3, wherein said mineral oil is at a temperature from about 20°C to about 40°C.

Claim 8. (Original) The process of claim 7, wherein lecithin is present in amounts of from about 0.1 to about 0.35% w/v of mineral oil.

Claim 9. (Original) The process of claim 8, wherein evaporation of acetonitrile is at a temperature less than 30°C.

Claim 10. (Original) The process of claim 9, wherein said stirring in step d. is about 500 rpm.

Cancel claims 11-27 without prejudice or disclaimer.